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## U.A.S. Newsletter, no. 9 (January 10, 1953)

Editors(s): Ross T. Christensen and Alfred L. Bush

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Published by the UNIVERSITY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah

Editor: Ross T. Christensen

Contributing Editor: Alfred L. Bush

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- 9.0 New General Officers. The Society's Annual Business Meeting of November 6, 1952, saw the election of several new General Officers from widely-dispersed localities. The following have indicated their willingness to serve; they automatically became members of the Executive Committee (previously elected General Officers were listed in the November 25 Newsletter, 8.11):
- 9.00 WILFRID C. BAILEY, University of Texas, Austin, Texas. A professional anthropologist specializing in archaeology and social anthropology. Excavated with the University of Arizona in Forestdale Valley, east-central Arizona, 1939 and 1940. Field supervisor of the Arizona State Museum and CCC (Indian Division) excavations at Ventana Cave on the Papago Reservation, Arizona, 1941. As a laboratory assistant at the University of Chicago, analyzed materials from the Kincaid site, Illinois, 1942. Author of several articles in American Antiquity and other scientific journals. M.A. in anthropology (archaeology) at the University of Arizona, 1942. Ph.D. study at Chicago, 1941-42, 1946-47. Instructor in the Department of Anthropology, University of Texas, 1947-51; Assistant Professor, 1951-. Fellow of the American Anthropological Association and member of the Society for American Archaeology and other scientific organizations.
- 9.01 THOMAS STUART FERGUSON, 1 Irving Lane, Orinda, California. A lawyer by profession and since 1933 a student of Middle American archaeology by avocation. An early member of the U.A.S. and organizer of the New World Archaeological Foundation (see November 25 Newsletter, 8.4; present Newsletter, 9.4). Undergraduate study in anthropology. Author of Cumorah--Where? and several articles on Book of Mormon archaeology; co-author with Milton R. Hunter of Ancient America and the Book of Mormon. Delivered a paper before the Society for American Archaeology, "Joseph Smith, Mormon Prophet, and American Archaeology," May 3, 1952 (see July 1 Newsletter, 7.0-7.16). LL.B. at the University of California School of Jurisprudence, 1942. Member of the Society for American Archaeology.
- 9.02 FRANCIS W. KIRKHAM, 436 S. 12th E., Salt Lake City, Utah. An educator of national reputation and an authority on the origin of the Book of Mormon. Author of books and articles in the field of character education and allied subjects. Author of A New Witness for Christ in America, which has gone through three printings. LL.B. at the University of Utah and PH.D. in education at the University of California. A frequent lecturer on Book of Mormon subjects at the BYU Leadership Week.

9.03 CLARK S. KNOWLTON, Georgia Teachers College, Collegeboro, Georgia. A professional sociologist concentrating at present on Brazilian studies. An early archaeology enthusiast at BYU and member of the original Temporary Organizing Committee that drafted plans in August, 1946, for the U.A. S. Undergraduate study in anthropology and archaeology. M.A. in sociology, BYU, 1948. Has since completed pre-thesis requirements for the doctorate at Vanderbilt University and has spent more than a year doing field research in Brazil. Associate Professor in the Division of Social Science, Georgia Teachers College, 1952-.

9.04 LORENZO H. SNOW, 1712 Summit, Columbus, Ohio. A graduate student in sociology and an archaeology enthusiast of several years standing. An early member of the U.A.S. and secretary-treasurer, June-December, 1949. Under-graduate study in archaeology. Graduated from the BYU, June, 1950. Completed two years of post-graduate work at Northwestern University and further study at Ohio State University.

9.1 Message from Society President. Dr. M. Wells Jakeman, U.A.S. president, points out to the members the policy-forming function of their Executive Committee and urges them to communicate to the General Officers their ideas for the betterment of the Society. In this way the duty of the General Officers of formulating plans whereby the Society's objectives can be achieved, will be greatly facilitated.

U.A.S. members are encouraged to organize themselves, wherever possible, into local chapters, Dr. Jakeman continues. Local groups can enjoy such activities as museum visits, library research projects, and social events. Under the constitution any member who takes the initiative in organizing a chapter is automatically appointed the director thereof and becomes a General Officer of the Society. Other chapter officers are elected locally. A list of members residing in a particular area will be furnished to any interested member upon request.

Members are further urged to prepare articles for publication in the Society's Bulletin. Discussions of any archaeological topic, particularly any bearing on the Scriptures, will receive careful consideration, according to the editor, Dr. Jakeman. ~~Briefer comments should be sent to the editor of the Newsletter. Also, members have the privilege of submitting to the latter editor questions, answers to which they would like him to publish.~~

9.2 New Bulletin. No. 4 of the Bulletin of the University Archaeological Society is now in press and will be ready for distribution within a few weeks, according to Dr. Jakeman. Contents are as follows: "The 'Tree of Life' in Ancient America; its Representations and Significance," by Irene Briggs Woodford (based upon her 1950 thesis research); "An Unusual Tree-of-Life Sculpture from Ancient Central America" (an apparent portrayal of Lehi's vision of the Tree of Life!), by M. Wells Jakeman; and "Joseph Smith and American Archaeology," by Thomas Stuart Ferguson (read before the 17th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology; see 9.01).

(As well as the regular distribution to Society membership, this issue of the Bulletin will be available to non-members at \$1.00 per copy.)

- 9.3 Honorary Member Dies. The U.A.S. notes with regret the passing on November 29 of Dr. John Andreas Widtsoe, member of the LDS Council of Twelve, distinguished educator and scientist, and Honorary Member of the Society since February, 1950. With the death of Elder Widtsoe, there comes to an end a career full of achievement and devoted to the service of mankind. Long interested in the application of archaeology to the scriptures, he played a vital part in the establishment of the Department of Archaeology at BYU in 1946. He assisted in the purchase of the Gates Collection of Middle American linguistic documents and has always been ready to lend his support both to the Department and the Society. Members everywhere experience a feeling of loss and concurrent praise for his outstanding service.
- 9.4 Students Join Expedition. U.A.S. members John L. Sorenson and Gareth W. Lowe, graduate archaeology students at BYU, departed from Provo December 31 to join Pedro Armillas January 2 at Mexico City. Professor Armillas is field director of the New World Archaeological Foundation's explorations and excavations in southern Mexico (see November 25 Newsletter, 8.4) and has been in the field since early December. Mono Pelado and other large sites in the vicinity of Huimanguillo, Tabasco, on the Grande-Grijalva river have been visited. The BYU students, it is expected, will remain in the field until June.
- 9.5 Master's Degree Awarded. General Officer John L. Sorenson was awarded the M.A. degree (major: archaeology; minor: Bible and Modern Scripture) at the BYU 1952 Summer Convocation. His thesis, entitled "Evidences of Culture Contacts Between Polynesia and the Americas in Pre-Columbian Times," has been read and favorably commented upon by archaeologists Gordon F. Ekholm and Harold S. Gladwin and is being made available to others in the profession. Mr. Sorenson was also awarded the M.S. degree in meteorology at the June, 1952, commencement of the California Institute of Technology.
- 9.6 To Visit Angkor Wat. Mrs. Olive K. Birmingham, U.A.S. member and instructor now on leave from BYU's Department of English as the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship for exchange teachers in Thailand (Siam), writes in a Christmas greeting of her plans to travel to ancient Angkor Wat in Lower Cambodia, Indo-China, during December. Seat of the by-gone Khmer civilization and one of the important archaeological sites of the Far East, it is noted for its fabulous ruins of a spacious temple long lost in luxuriant, tropical vegetation. Mrs. Birmingham is a niece of Elder Spencer W. Kimball of the LDS Council of Twelve.
- 9.7 BYU Enrollment in Archaeology. A total of 502 students have enrolled in archaeology classes during the Autumn Quarter of the current school year at BYU and to date in the Winter Quarter, as compared with 330 for the first two quarters of last year and 232 for the same period of the year before. The total archaeology enrollment for the school-year 1951-52 was 690, which constitutes a 79% increase over 1950-51 and a 275% increase over 1949-50. The present year's figures, when complete, will undoubtedly continue the same upward trend.